

Office of Outdoor Advertising  
Public Meeting

January 13, 2022

11:00 AM

State Transportation Building

10 Park Plaza

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Boston, MA 02116

(via Webinar)

Present:

John Romano, Executive Director

Office of Outdoor Advertising, January 13, 2022

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2

3 JOHN ROMANO: Good morning, everybody.  
4 My name is John Romano. I am the Director of Outdoor  
5 Advertising for MassDOT. We are here for our January  
6 13, 2022 Office of Outdoor Advertising public meeting.

7 This meeting is being held virtually by  
8 the June 16<sup>th</sup> Act extending certain COVID-19 measures  
9 adopted during the State of Emergency, which runs  
10 through April 1<sup>st</sup> of this year.

11 We are running this hearing by Zoom  
12 platform.

13 Please note that this meeting is being  
14 recorded by our stenographer, who is in attendance,  
15 and he will provide a transcript of the meeting that  
16 will be posted on our website, as always.

17 This meeting is accessible to people  
18 with disabilities and individuals with limited English  
19 proficiency. If you filed a request to be available  
20 today and did not receive it, please contact MassDOT's  
21 Office of Diversity and Civil Rights at 857-368-8580  
22 or [massdot.civilrights@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:massdot.civilrights@dot.state.ma.us).

23 Please note that accessible versions of  
24 the meeting materials have been previously posted to

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1 the OOA website and will be referred to in the  
2 meeting. A link to these documents is also posted  
3 into the Q&A box.

4 I am going to ask Gerry Kelleher of my  
5 staff to review the Zoom controls at this time.

6 Gerry, would you put those notes up on  
7 the board?

8 GERARD KELLEHER: Okay.

9 JOHN ROMANO: Gerry, could you just  
10 read those for people?

11 GERARD KELLEHER: Sure. The platform  
12 controls, only the panelists have the ability to be on  
13 the camera.

14 And, if you'd like to ask a question,  
15 please raise your hand and unmute yourself. I will  
16 unmute people that raise their hand at the appropriate  
17 time.

18 The chat and interpretation features  
19 are not functional for this webinar.

20 And, if you can't access the Internet,  
21 you may call into this meeting at 1-301-715-8592.

22 JOHN ROMANO: And by raise your hand  
23 means using the raise your hand button on the Zoom  
24 controls. It's the little hand icon.

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1                   GERARD KELLEHER: That's right. And  
2 please state your name before asking a question. And  
3 only make one question at a time and keep it pertinent  
4 to the subject that we're on in the agenda.

5                   Thank you.

6                   JOHN ROMANO: Thank you, Gerry.

7                   We are going to run this meeting as  
8 close to our usual Outdoor Advertising hearings as  
9 possible. It will be run in the same manner. I will  
10 go through the agenda. The sign-in sheet, obviously,  
11 physically can't be signed, but by signing up for the  
12 webinar, we have a list of those who are in  
13 attendance. So, that will be the sign-in part of the  
14 agenda.

15                   Gerry, at this time, if you could put  
16 the agenda on the screen that would be great.

17                   We will go through each item on the  
18 agenda. I will ask questions of the proponents.

19                   Just so that you know, everybody in the  
20 public, as Gerry has stated, is currently muted and  
21 your camera is turned off unless you are a panelist  
22 that has an item in front of us today.

23                   If you would like to speak at some  
24 point during the meeting when public comment is

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1 requested, as Gerry has stated, you should use the  
2 Raise Your Hand function as was previously described.  
3 You can also put your question or comments in the Q&A  
4 box. You'll have a chance to make comments, just like  
5 you do at our regular public hearings that we hold at  
6 10 Park Plaza, although I really shouldn't have to say  
7 this no more. We've been doing this for two years.  
8 This is the regular now. So, we will do this as we  
9 have.

10 Please note you can provide comments in  
11 writing to us by email as always.

12 For anybody who may be new to this  
13 meeting, we do not make any decisions at this actual  
14 hearing. Every item is taken under advisement, and  
15 decisions are usually made within a few weeks,  
16 sometimes as early as a week, but we will give time  
17 for write-in comments through our email address, which  
18 is [OOAInformation@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:OOAInformation@dot.state.ma.us).

19 You can send in your comments in  
20 writing there.

21 Also, we will have public comments at  
22 the end of each item, and then a final chance for  
23 overall comments at the end of the agenda.

24 Okay. With that, Gerry, we are going

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1 to start the meeting.

2 GERARD KELLEHER: Okay.

3 JOHN ROMANO: So, the first item on our  
4 agenda, the previously discussed sign-in.

5 The next item is the regular session  
6 minutes from December 9, 2021. Are there any comments  
7 or questions on those?

8 (No response.)

9 JOHN ROMANO: I am not seeing any hands  
10 up. And I am not seeing anything in the chat.

11 Do you see anything, Gerry?

12 GERARD KELLEHER: No. At this time, no  
13 hands.

14 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. With that, I am  
15 going to mark these approved.

16 So, the first item on the agenda is  
17 Application for New Licenses. There are three of  
18 them.

19 The first one is Interstate Select  
20 Media New England, LLC, 905 North King Highway, Cherry  
21 Hill, New Jersey.

22 Is the applicant in attendance today?

23 KEN ROWEL: We are. Ken Rowel, R-o-w-  
24 e-l, from Interstate.

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1                   JOHN ROMANO: How are you doing today,  
2 Ken?

3                   KEN ROWEL: Doing well. And you?

4                   JOHN ROMANO: Good. Thanks.

5                   Ken, we've reviewed your application.  
6 All the paperwork seems to be in order. Your  
7 Certificate of Good Standing and/or Tax Compliance has  
8 been submitted. Your W-9 has been submitted. Your  
9 appropriate fee has been submitted.

10                  Do you have anything that you would  
11 like to add to your application at this time?

12                  KEN ROWEL: Not at this time.

13                  JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Does anybody have  
14 any questions or comments that they would like to add  
15 to this application, from the public at this time?  
16 This is for a license.

17                  (No response.)

18                  JOHN ROMANO: I am not seeing any.

19                  GERARD KELLEHER: No hands raised at  
20 this time.

21                  JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Nothing in the  
22 chat.

23                  Mr. Rowel, we will take this one under  
24 advisement, and we will get back to you.

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1 KEN ROWEL: Thank you.

2 JOHN ROMANO: The next one is  
3 Interstate IIH Outdoor, LLC, same address as above,  
4 905 North King Highway, Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

5 Mr. Rowel, I assume this is you as  
6 well. Am I correct?

7 KEN ROWEL: That is correct.

8 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Again, with this  
9 one, Mr. Rowel, your application seems to be all in  
10 order. We reviewed all of the paperwork. Your  
11 Certificate of Good Standing and/or Tax Compliance is  
12 in order. Your W-9 is in order. And we do have the  
13 appropriate fee was submitted.

14 Do you have anything that you would  
15 like to add to this application at this time?

16 KEN ROWEL: Not at this time.

17 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Are there any  
18 comments or questions from anybody in attendance on  
19 this application for license only?

20 (No response.)

21 JOHN ROMANO: I am not seeing any.

22 GERARD KELLEHER: I don't see anything.

23 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Nothing in the  
24 chat.



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1                   Okay. Mr. Rowel, we will take this one  
2 under advisement, and we will get back to you.

3                   Number three is Interstate JNJ, LLC,  
4 same address, 905 North King Highway, Cherry Hill, New  
5 Jersey. This is also a license only application.

6                   Mr. Rowel, I assume this is also you.  
7 Is that correct?

8                   KEN ROWEL: That's correct.

9                   JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Again, with this  
10 one as well, we reviewed the application. It all  
11 seems to be in order. The Certificate of Good  
12 Standing and/or Tax Compliance has been submitted.  
13 Your W-9 has been submitted and is in order. The  
14 correct fee has been submitted.

15                   Is there anything that you would like  
16 to add to your application at this time?

17                   KEN ROWEL: Not at this time. Thank  
18 you.

19                   JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Any comments or  
20 questions from those in attendance on this application  
21 for license only?

22                   (No response.)

23                   JOHN ROMANO: I am not seeing any.

24                   GERARD KELLEHER: I'm not seeing

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1 anything.

2 JOHN ROMANO: We will take this one  
3 under advisement as well.

4 Okay, Mr. Rowel, all three are taken  
5 under advisement. We will get back to you in a week  
6 or so on all three license only applications.

7 Thank you very much for attending.

8 KEN ROWEL: Thanks.

9 JOHN ROMANO: All right. Next up on  
10 the docket, we have this is an application for permit  
11 amendment. This is Maverick Media, LLC. This is  
12 Permit Numbers 2021D021 and D022 at 120 Interstate  
13 Drive in West Springfield.

14 Is the proponent in attendance?

15 VALERIE BARSOM: I am. I'm here.

16 JOHN ROMANO: Valerie, please state  
17 your name for the record.

18 VALERIE BARSOM: Valerie Barsom. I'm  
19 the owner of Maverick Media, LLC.

20 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Valerie, this  
21 application is to do two things. You're going to move  
22 the sign about 100 feet. And you're on the same  
23 property, same exact place, same address, 120  
24 Interstate Drive. And you're actually going to lower

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1 the sign to 85 feet from I believe it was like 125  
2 feet originally.

3 VALERIE BARSOM: Yes, that's correct,  
4 Director Romano.

5 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. We reviewed your  
6 plans. I reviewed the new special permit, which you  
7 did receive from the Town of West Springfield. They  
8 have no issue with the change in location on the same  
9 property. And, also, they had, although not stated in  
10 the special permit, I did receive from the planning  
11 board, or from the -- let me make sure I've got her  
12 name right -- Planning Director Allyson Manuel, that  
13 she has no issue with the lowering of the sign. Also,  
14 from the property owner, I have a note that they have  
15 no issue with the change in location or the change in  
16 height. So, everything seems to be in order from both  
17 the Town and from the owner of the property.

18 Also, we submitted this to our -- where  
19 this is a digital board, we did submit this to our  
20 State Traffic Engineer's office to make sure that the  
21 change in location and/or change of the height did not  
22 change the fact that originally they did not require a  
23 traffic study. And I got back from their office that  
24 there is no change to that; no traffic study needed.

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1 There's no change based on your requested changes.

2 So, with that, I am going to ask my  
3 inspector, Jason Bean, to give his field report to  
4 make sure that there are no change conditions in  
5 regards to the CMR and our regulations based on the  
6 changes you are requesting.

7 JASON BEAN: Good morning. Thank you,  
8 John.

9 As stated, this is 2021D021 and 22.  
10 They will be facing north and south. These are  
11 digitals. This was an amendment to an original  
12 application submitted.

13 Although the picture isn't great, the  
14 sunshine glare there, but you can see the stake there  
15 in the ground in the picture.

16 No changes basically to the original  
17 other than slightly being closer to the highway and  
18 reduced in height.

19 The only thing I would like to point  
20 out for the applicant is that when this is built,  
21 please be aware of the property lines there. We don't  
22 want this sign to be built on a, you know, overhanging  
23 -- a parcel that you don't have permission to be on,  
24 and if that's the case.

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1                   So, that's all, John. No other issues.  
2                   I just wanted to point that out to the applicant once  
3                   they do start to build. You know, the property line,  
4                   you know, it's sort of the air rights going, you know,  
5                   up into the sky. So you can't overbuild on another  
6                   piece of parcel.

7                   And that's it. That's all I have for  
8                   you, John. Thank you.

9                   JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great. Is there  
10                  anybody -- I just wanted to check -- is there anybody  
11                  here from the town where this is -- where the  
12                  amendment is being proposed? I didn't notice anybody  
13                  in attendance, but I just wanted to check that.

14                  (No response.)

15                  JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Valerie, do you  
16                  have anything that you want to add to your application  
17                  at this time?

18                  VALERIE BARSOM: No, I think we're  
19                  pretty complete. I want to just thank Jason for  
20                  pointing that out. We're aware of that. The  
21                  engineers are obviously aware of that as well. So,  
22                  you know, that's going to go into, as we start  
23                  building it, we're very aware of that.

24                  But, thank you for pointing it out,

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1 Jason. And we think we should be all set.

2 Thank you, Director.

3 JASON BEAN: Thank you.

4 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great. Oh, and  
5 just one other -- anybody from the MassDOT District  
6 Office in attendance on this thing?

7 (No response.)

8 JOHN ROMANO: I didn't think so.

9 Okay. All right, Valerie. We'll take  
10 this request for amendment under advisement and we'll  
11 get back.

12 VALERIE BARSOM: Thank you so much.

13 Thank you.

14 JOHN ROMANO: You're welcome.

15 Oh, just before I wrap it up, is there  
16 anybody in attendance that had any questions or  
17 concern on this one? I don't want to leave out public  
18 comment.

19 (No response.)

20 GERARD KELLEHER: Can't see anyone.

21 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Sorry about that.  
22 I meant to ask that first before I wrapped it up.

23 All right, Valerie, no public comment.  
24 We'll take that under advisement and get back to you.

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1 VALERIE BARSOM: Okay. Thank you,  
2 Director. Thank you. Have a good day.

3 JOHN ROMANO: You're welcome. You as  
4 well.

5 Okay. So, next up, we have a request  
6 to transfer 16 permits from Carroll Advertising, LLC  
7 to Outfront Media, LLC. There are -- these permits  
8 are located -- there are four in Foxborough, two in  
9 Norton, four in Plainville, four in Sharon, two in  
10 Walpole. They're listed right there. You can see the  
11 addresses: four on Washington Street, two on Lopes  
12 Drive in Norton, two on Washington Street in  
13 Plainville, two on Taunton Street in Plainville, four  
14 on General Edwards Highway in Sharon, and two on Pine  
15 Street in Walpole.

16 Is anybody here from either Carroll  
17 Advertising and/or Outfront Media?

18 JENNA PANEPINTO: Jenna Panepinto from  
19 Outfront Media.

20 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Hi, Jenna. How  
21 are you?

22 JENNA PANEPINTO: Hi. I'm good. How  
23 are you?

24 JOHN ROMANO: Very good. Thank you.

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1                   Okay. Jenna, we reviewed the  
2 application from Mr. Carroll, who is the current owner  
3 and is transferring them over to you. Everything from  
4 the transfer side, paperwork, seems to be in order.

5                   As was previously discussed with you,  
6 the last two permits, 143 Pine Street -- excuse me,  
7 not 143 Pine -- there are two in Walpole --  
8 Plainville, I apologize, where there is a traffic  
9 study that is still outstanding and that you guys will  
10 pick that up and make sure that that gets completed  
11 when it's due in approximately I forget if it's ten or  
12 12 -- ten or so months from now, whenever the date  
13 that it's due, that Outfront will pick that up from  
14 the Carroll operation and make sure it gets that  
15 complete, as we previously discussed. Is that your  
16 understanding?

17                   JENNA PANEPINTO: Yes, that's correct.  
18 Yeah.

19                   JOHN ROMANO: Okay. With that, I am, I  
20 believe Jason -- excuse me -- Chris Chaves, my  
21 inspector, did the inspection on these. Is that  
22 correct, Chris?

23                   CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Yeah, John. Marc  
24 and I divvied these up, but I'll speak for them all.



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1 JOHN ROMANO: Okay.

2 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: They're all  
3 conforming sites. Nothing has changed in any of those  
4 areas since approval of those signs. A lot of them  
5 actually are newer signs, so there are no issues with  
6 any of these sites.

7 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great.

8 Jenna, anything you want to add at this  
9 time?

10 JENNA PANEPINTO: Not at this time.  
11 Thank you.

12 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Does anybody have  
13 any comments or concerns with these from those in  
14 attendance, the public?

15 (No response.)

16 GERARD KELLEHER: I'm not seeing  
17 anybody, John.

18 JOHN ROMANO: I don't see anybody  
19 either. Okay.

20 Jenna, we'll just take this under --  
21 this transfer request under advisement, and we will  
22 get back to you.

23 JENNA PANEPINTO: Thanks, Director.

24 JOHN ROMANO: You've got it.

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1                   Next. Okay, next, we have an  
2 application for an electronic permit from Clear  
3 Channel Outdoor, LLC. This is 236-240 Mystic Ave.  
4 This is Application Numbers 2022D001 and D002.  
5 They're existing static permits 2005095 and 096,  
6 conversion to digital.

7                   Notification was provided to the  
8 municipality by my office on December 14, 2021, to the  
9 mayor and to the city clerk.

10                   Is the applicant present?

11                   YANO AMARA: Yes, Yano Amara from Clear  
12 Channel Outdoor.

13                   JOHN ROMANO: How are you doing, Yano?

14                   YANO AMARA: John, I'm doing well. How  
15 about yourself?

16                   JOHN ROMANO: Very good. Thank you.

17                   Is there anybody here representing the  
18 municipality where the sign is being proposed?

19                   (No response.)

20                   JOHN ROMANO: I'm not seeing anybody.  
21 Gerry, do you see any hands?

22                   GERARD KELLEHER: No hands.

23                   JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Are there any  
24 abutters present today?

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1 (No response.)

2 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands.

3 JOHN ROMANO: I'm not seeing any.

4 Is there anybody present from the  
5 MassDOT District Office?

6 (No response.)

7 GERARD KELLEHER: Negative.

8 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Is there anybody  
9 from MassDOT Traffic?

10 (No response.)

11 JOHN ROMANO: So, Yano, this here is a  
12 digital. All digital applications are sent to the  
13 State Traffic Engineer for review. As was previously,  
14 about a week-and-a-half ago, identified to Mr.  
15 Maurello of your office, this site will need a traffic  
16 study done. That information was sent to Mike about a  
17 week-and-a-half ago. So, we will send you, once this  
18 hearing is complete in the next day or two, we will  
19 send you the requirements for the traffic study for  
20 this location.

21 YANO AMARA: Thank you.

22 JOHN ROMANO: Mr. Amara, was certified  
23 mail notice to abutters sent out by you at least 30  
24 days prior to submitting your application to my

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1 office?

2 YANO AMARA: Yes.

3 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. And I have the  
4 post office receipts with the package. So, thank you  
5 very much for submitting those. And I also have a  
6 copy of the letter which you sent out. Is that  
7 correct?

8 YANO AMARA: Yes.

9 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you very much.  
10 Have you received any written comments  
11 in support or opposition of this application?

12 YANO AMARA: Have not at this time.

13 JOHN ROMANO: And we have not received  
14 anything either in our office.

15 So special permit or variance. Is it  
16 correct that in the application, and as signed off on  
17 the application, a Petition 21-56 by the City Council,  
18 submitted and granted the special permit and the  
19 authorization by the City, and that was signed off by  
20 the Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn? Is that your  
21 understanding?

22 YANO AMARA: Yes.

23 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. There is, in the  
24 special permit, restriction of hours of operation

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1 between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. So, the sign will  
2 not be able to be operated during that period of time.  
3 Is that correct?

4 YANO AMARA: Correct. Yes.

5 JOHN ROMANO: Great. With that, I will  
6 have my field inspector, Christopher Chaves, give his  
7 field report on this location.

8 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Thank you, John.

9 As you mentioned, this is a proposed  
10 conversion of a current static permit to electronic,  
11 facing north and south on I-93 in Medford.

12 There are no sign spacing issues to any  
13 other signs. There is an electronic sign to the north  
14 that is 1,123 feet away, as well as one to the south  
15 that's 1,156 feet away. There is also a static sign  
16 on that same side of the roadway that is 628 feet away  
17 from the location.

18 Also, there's no interchange  
19 measurement to be taken due to the population of  
20 Medford being over 50,000 people.

21 So, with that, there's no spacing  
22 issue.

23 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Thank you very  
24 much.

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1                   Mr. Amara, is there anything you'd like  
2                   to add to your application at this time?

3                   YANO AMARA: Not at this time, John.

4                   JOHN ROMANO: Thank you very much.

5                   Any comments, questions, or concerns  
6                   from anybody in attendance?

7                   (No response.)

8                   GERARD KELLEHER: I don't see any.

9                   JOHN ROMANO: I'm not seeing anybody  
10                  either. Nothing in the Q&A.

11                  Okay. Great. Mr. Amara, at this time,  
12                  we will take this application under advisement, and we  
13                  will get you the traffic study information in the next  
14                  day or two.

15                  YANO AMARA: Thank you so much.

16                  JOHN ROMANO: Thank you,

17                  Okay, the last package. Okay. Next,  
18                  we have a stack of street furniture applications.  
19                  These are all existing street furniture, from  
20                  Intersection Media, LLC working with the MBTA. These  
21                  are all in the City of Somerville. And I am going to  
22                  take these all as one bunch. These are Permit  
23                  Application Numbers 2022SF001 through SF018. Again,  
24                  as I said, all are in the City of Somerville.

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1                   Notice was provided to the municipality  
2 by my office on December 14, 2021 to the mayor and the  
3 city clerk. Some of these are on the City of  
4 Somerville property and some are on the MBTA property.  
5 The ones on MBTA property were signed off by the MBTA.  
6 And the ones that are on City of Somerville property  
7 were signed off by Brad Rawson, Director of Mobility  
8 for the City of Somerville.

9                   With that said, I am just going to read  
10 all of the locations so that they will be read into  
11 the record, and then I'm just going to go deal with  
12 them all as one.

13                   So, 167 Holland Street, 114 Elm Street,  
14 71 Somerville Ave., 236 Highland Ave., 28 Highland  
15 Ave., 252 Medford Street, 530 Mystic Ave., 422 Mystic  
16 Ave., 473 Broadway, 383 Broadway, 320 Broadway, 250  
17 Broadway, 165 Broadway, 65 Broadway, 599 Somerville  
18 Ave., 510 Somerville Ave., 364 McGrath Highway, and  
19 369 McGrath Highway.

20                   These are all existing bus shelters  
21 that have been out here and previously permitted.  
22 They are now being permitted by the new company that  
23 is working with the MBTA, which is Intersection Media.  
24 So, these are not new units. Again, they are

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1 existing, they are out there, and they are now just  
2 being permitted by the new company.

3 With that being said, is there anybody  
4 here representing the applicant, Intersection Media?

5 KATE DESANTIS: Hi, Mr. Romano. This  
6 is Kate DeSantis with Intersection.

7 JOHN ROMANO: Hi, Kate. How are you  
8 today?

9 KATE DESANTIS: I'm well. Thank you.  
10 I hope you are, too.

11 JOHN ROMANO: I'm doing well. Thank  
12 you.

13 Is there anybody here representing the  
14 municipality today?

15 (No response.)

16 GERARD KELLEHER: No.

17 JOHN ROMANO: I'm not seeing any.  
18 Okay.

19 Are there any abutters present today?

20 (No response.)

21 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands.

22 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Anybody here  
23 representing the District Office of MassDOT?

24 (No response.)



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1 JOHN ROMANO: Not seeing anybody.

2 GERARD KELLEHER: Negative.

3 JOHN ROMANO: Traffic Operations is N/A  
4 as these are static.

5 Abutter notice is not required as these  
6 are street furniture.

7 And special permits, the ones on MBTA  
8 property are not subject to municipal zoning.

9 The ones on Somerville, the City of  
10 Somerville signed off as not subject to municipal  
11 zoning and/or bylaws. Zoning does not regulate public  
12 -- excuse me -- zoning does not regulate public  
13 thoroughfares or right of ways. And that was signed  
14 off by the City of Somerville. So, no special permit  
15 was required in this case.

16 So, with that, Kate, do you have  
17 anything that you would like to add to your  
18 applications at this time?

19 KATE DESANTIS: No, not this month.  
20 Thank you.

21 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Jason Bean, would  
22 you like to give your inspection report on behalf of  
23 the team, please?

24 JASON BEAN: Chris has got this one,

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1 John.

2 JOHN ROMANO: Oh, Chris is going to do  
3 this one?

4 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Yeah.

5 JASON BEAN: Yeah.

6 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Sorry about that,  
7 Chris.

8 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: That' all right.  
9 That's all right.

10 JOHN ROMANO: It's actually your  
11 inspection report.

12 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Yes. So, you can  
13 see an example of what these bus shelters look like on  
14 the screen there. They are existing shelters, as you  
15 mentioned, just transferring licensees.

16 There are no issues with any sites.  
17 They're all existing shelters. None were missing.  
18 All there. So, no issues.

19 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great. Thank you  
20 very much.

21 Does anybody in attendance, in the  
22 general public, have any questions or comments about  
23 these bus shelters, existing bus shelters, requesting  
24 permits?

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1 (No response.)

2 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands raised.

3 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. I don't see  
4 anything in the Q&A

5 With that, Kate, we will take these  
6 under advisement, and we will get back to you.

7 KATE DESANTIS: Great. We look forward  
8 to hearing from you.

9 JOHN ROMANO: Very good. Thank you.

10 Okay. Next item on the agenda is Item  
11 F. Application for 2022 Renewal of Outdoor Advertising  
12 Licenses and Permits. As you can see, we have about  
13 31 listed.

14 Any questions or comments on those from  
15 anybody?

16 (No response.)

17 JOHN ROMANO: I am not seeing anything.

18 GERARD KELLEHER: Negative.

19 JOHN ROMANO: Great. The next item --

20 GERARD KELLEHER: Well, there's one  
21 hand raise, John.

22 JOHN ROMANO: Okay.

23 GERARD KELLEHER: Michael Reiskind.

24 JOHN ROMANO: Michael --

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1 GERARD KELLEHER: Should I unmute him?

2 JOHN ROMANO: Yes, why don't you unmute  
3 Michael and we'll answer his question.

4 GERARD KELLEHER: Okay. Michael?

5 MICHAEL REISKIND: Hello. I'm Michael  
6 Reiskind. I live in Jamaica Plain. I'm a member of  
7 the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council. I worked with  
8 Mr. Romano on the Casey Overpass Arborway project.

9 JOHN ROMANO: How are you doing,  
10 Michael?

11 MICHAEL REISKIND: Hello. I'm very  
12 interested in billboards in Jamaica Plain. And I just  
13 have one comment on the Clear Channel, which I guess  
14 is 1,400 renewals, especially two billboards on  
15 Washington Street in Jamaica Plain in the Egleston  
16 Square area.

17 I would just urge Mr. Maurello -- I  
18 think he's in negotiation with the City on the sale of  
19 the so-called Peace Garden, and just wanted to say  
20 that it's very important for the community, and I hope  
21 he does the right thing for the community on the  
22 property that the billboard is on. One billboard is  
23 on private property, and one billboard is on property  
24 owned by Clear Channel. And I hope he realizes the

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1 importance of the Peace Garden for the community.

2 Thank you. That's it.

3 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Thank you,  
4 Michael.

5 All right. Any other comments on  
6 renewals of permits under Item F?

7 (No response.)

8 GERARD KELLEHER: No.

9 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing no hands, we will  
10 move on to G, which is Renewal of Unlicensed Outdoor  
11 Permits. There are five of them.

12 Any questions on those? Or comments?

13 (No response.)

14 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none, we will go  
15 to For the Record - Actions Taken Since the Last  
16 Public Hearing. There are several items there.

17 One thing, I just want to make a note,  
18 a couple of meetings ago, I think it was the December  
19 meeting, the MBTA item number two, Massachusetts Bay  
20 Transportation, Southampton Street, 245 east of  
21 Newmarket Street, at the time, there were questions  
22 about the spacing and people had questions about the  
23 thousand foot and all of that, the spacing. And, you  
24 know, maybe we really didn't explain it as much as we

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1 should have. And I just want to let people know that,  
2 you know, with the MBTA, the MBTA is not -- is subject  
3 to the federal-state agreement and not necessarily to  
4 the state regulations. And we probably should have  
5 been a little bit more clearer about that.

6 So, while there are, you know, the  
7 thousand -- there is a thousand-foot spacing out there  
8 between digitals, that doesn't always apply to, you  
9 know, MBTA and, you know, other state authorities.

10 So, we are continuing to -- we do take  
11 all of your comments seriously. I don't want anybody  
12 to think that when they point something out, although  
13 we may -- it may appear that we're dismissing a  
14 comment, we are not. That's why that is still under  
15 advisement. You know, we are looking at that to make  
16 sure that everything is -- all of the measurements are  
17 correct.

18 You know, Mr. Chaves and I both  
19 explained that, you know, we do take -- we go out and  
20 review the measurements. We actually both went out a  
21 couple of days after that hearing, you know, two days  
22 before Christmas, to go out and double-check those  
23 readings and those measurements for that board. And,  
24 you know, we are still conferring on that and, you

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1 know, but the MBTA, in general, follows the federal-  
2 state agreement and is not subject to state  
3 regulations necessarily, just like they're not subject  
4 to local zoning and don't have to go to the City of  
5 Boston and the City of Boston Zoning Board.

6 So, not always as it appears just, you  
7 know, written down. And we should have explained that  
8 a little bit better that day, and I didn't, and I  
9 apologize for that. So, we just wanted to throw that  
10 out there. And we are still looking at that board.  
11 And, you know, once we make a final determination,  
12 which should be any time, in the next coming days, you  
13 know, it will probably be on the next agenda as to  
14 whether that's approved or not. But I just want you  
15 to know that when people bring up comments to these  
16 meetings, while we may not have an answer or answers  
17 at the actual hearing, we do go out and look at things  
18 after the fact if we think that there's something that  
19 needs to be looked at. So, your comments do not go  
20 unnoticed.

21 Other than that, I don't have any other  
22 comments on any of the other ones on the agenda.

23 So, any other questions on those?

24 (No response.)

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1                   JOHN ROMANO:  If not, we'll move on to  
2 the public comment.  Does anybody have any other  
3 general public comment at this time related to Outdoor  
4 Advertising matters?

5                   (No response.)

6                   GERARD KELLEHER:  I don't see any,  
7 John.  No questions.

8                   JOHN ROMANO:  Okay.  If there's no  
9 other Outdoor Advertising public comments at this  
10 time, going once --

11                   GERARD KELLEHER:  I see Mr. Reiskind's  
12 raised his hand again.

13                   JOHN ROMANO:  Okay.

14                   GERARD KELLEHER:  Should I --

15                   JOHN ROMANO:  Mike, is that a new  
16 question?

17                   GERARD KELLEHER:  Go ahead, sir.

18                   MICHAEL REISKIND:  Yes, it is a new  
19 question.  It's about does the Board have any rules  
20 and regulations about cannabis or marijuana  
21 advertising statewide?

22                   JOHN ROMANO:  Michael, we do not.  We  
23 do not regulate the content.  The Cannabis Control  
24 Commission may have requirements as to where



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1 advertising of that nature can and cannot go, but the  
2 Outdoor Advertising -- Office of Outdoor Advertising,  
3 which is my office --

4 MICHAEL REISKIND: Sure.

5 JOHN ROMANO: -- we do not regulate  
6 content.

7 MICHAEL REISKIND: Right. Do you have  
8 any plans to do that? I'll tell you why. The  
9 statewide rules are that the words cannabis or  
10 marijuana cannot be advertised or part of the name on  
11 the location of the dispensaries. So that's why we  
12 have names like Green Leaf, and Seed, and rules like  
13 that. So, I thought this was a good rule, and the  
14 spirit of the law was good and held up by the  
15 applicants. But one of the applicants at least has  
16 asked for a large billboard saying "Cannabis here,"  
17 above their building, with eight-foot arrows pointing  
18 down. And I thought that was against the spirit of  
19 the state regulations on cannabis facilities, but they  
20 did find a loophole. And I was wondering if the  
21 Outdoor Advertising, Office of Outdoor Advertising,  
22 was thinking about putting in content rules to go with  
23 the state regulations on marijuana facilities.

24 JOHN ROMANO: Well, if a sign is on the

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1 business -- so we only deal with third-party  
2 advertising.

3 MICHAEL REISKIND: Right. Actually, it  
4 was next door. Yeah, actually, it was next door.  
5 Yeah.

6 JOHN ROMANO: If it was next door, and  
7 they don't own the property, and it's third-party  
8 advertising, then it's in our court, but we do not  
9 regulate content. It has to do with First Amendment  
10 rights. And, you know, since the beginning of time,  
11 Outdoor Advertising, not just my office in  
12 Massachusetts but everywhere, has not been involved in  
13 content.

14 MICHAEL REISKIND: Sure. I see.

15 JOHN ROMANO: If it violated another  
16 state, you know, law, so we would get brought in to  
17 say that, you know, one of your licensees or  
18 permittees is breaking a law, then we would probably  
19 work with that other state agency. But, you know, as  
20 far as just plain -- you know, from a content  
21 standpoint, we would not get involved.

22 MICHAEL REISKIND: Okay. So I'd have  
23 to go to the state marijuana? Is that the advice on  
24 that? It seems like -- it seems like it's just a

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1       loophole and not a -- it seems like it was a legal  
2       sign, but clearly against the spirit of the marijuana  
3       laws that said no use of the word cannabis or  
4       marijuana.

5                   JOHN ROMANO:  Yeah, it would be the  
6       Cannabis Control Commission.

7                   MICHAEL REISKIND:  Commission, yes.

8                   JOHN ROMANO:  If they told us -- if  
9       they wanted to come to us, say it was one of our  
10      permitted signs, then we would work with them if we  
11      felt it was a violation of a law, not just a content.

12                  MICHAEL REISKIND:  Right.  Okay.  So,  
13      work with the --

14                  JOHN ROMANO:  We'd have to --

15                  MICHAEL REISKIND:  Work with the CCC  
16      and then -- okay.  So you wouldn't -- okay.  Just  
17      wanted to know because it was very -- yeah, it was  
18      very troublesome.  Yeah.

19                  JOHN ROMANO:  All right.

20                  MICHAEL REISKIND:  Thank you.  Thank  
21      you.

22                  JOHN ROMANO:  No problem.

23                  Okay.  Anybody else?

24                  (No response.)

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1                   GERARD KELLEHER: That's all I see.

2                   JOHN ROMANO: All right. Seeing none,  
3 we will adjourn at 11:42. Thank you all very much.  
4 We will see you next month. Stay safe, everyone.  
5 Thank you all. Appreciate it.

6                   (Whereupon, the proceedings were  
7 concluded on January 13, 2022, at 11:42 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Judith Luciano, do hereby certify that the foregoing record is a true and accurate transcription of the proceedings in the above-captioned matter to the best of my skill and ability.

*Judith Luciano*

Judith Luciano

\*\*All names not provided were spelled phonetically to the best of my ability.